

TUSKLESS ELEPHANT.

Ceylon the Only Part of the World Where They Exist.

What a sight for a Ceylon elephant hunter would be the first view of a herd of African elephants—all tuskers! It is a singular thing that Ceylon is the only part of the world where the male elephants have no tusks; they have miserable little grubbers projecting two or three inches from the upper jaw and inclining downward.

Nothing produces either ivory or horn in fine specimens throughout Ceylon. Although some of the buffaloes have tolerably fine heads, they will not bear a comparison with those of other countries. The horns of the native cattle are not above four inches in length.

The elk and the spotted deer antlers are small compared with deer of their size in India. This is more singular, as it is evident from the geological formation that at some remote period Ceylon was not an island, but formed a portion of the main land. It is thought there must be elements wanting in the Ceylon pasture for the formation of ivory.—Ceylon Manual.

Smokeless Coal.

A London inventor claims to have discovered a process for producing smokeless coal, apparently by distillation of coal at a low temperature. This, after distillation, is said to deposit a very brilliant substance, the heating properties of which are far greater than those of the original coal, and which is absolutely free from smoke and dirt. The inventor contends that efforts to overcome the smoke plague have hitherto been unsuccessful because they have been made in the wrong direction, and that by the extraction of the smoke-producing material in coal before being burned, he has been successful in producing a smokeless coal.

Electrocuting Animals.

The slaughter of animals for food by electrocution is being experimented by Dr. Ledue, a French scientist, who has been conducting his investigations in the French abattoirs. He has been using the intermittent low tension currents and says that he is satisfied that the system is painless, the central functions of perception being first destroyed and then those of circulation and respiration, so that there is neither suffering nor reaction in the animals thus killed. The doctor is endeavoring to devise some piece of apparatus by which the killing of cattle may be accomplished by electricity with economy and celerity.

The Shy Man.

Women show no mercy to the shy man, for he stands outside of the compass of convention. Could he break out all might be saved; the man might be permanently cured. But he cannot. He has been brought up to respect convention. His muscles may be of steel, his heart of fire, but in his soul the spirit of diffidence holds him in a vice. In a drawing room he stands gaping, quaking, a prey to introspective torment—he who would perhaps storm a rampart with a triumphant smile on his lips.—London Observer.

Hanging Pictures Dangerous.

"Railroad casualties receive such wide publicity," said an insurance man, "that there is a common belief on the part of the public that one is more liable to accidents while traveling than when living the simple life in the confines of his home. As a matter of fact, statistics show that accident insurance companies pay more money to people who get hurt hanging pictures or taking stoves apart than they do to the victims of head-on collisions. It sounds strange, but it's the truth."—Kansas City Journal.

Three Men to Move Book.

There lies in the British Museum the largest book yet printed, a colossal atlas of engraved ancient Dutch maps. It takes three men to move it from the giant book case in which it is stored in the library of the museum. It is bound in leather, magnificently decorated, and is fastened with clasps of solid silver, richly gilt. It is nearly seven feet high and weighs 800 pounds and was presented to King Charles II. before he left Holland in the year 1660.

Valuable East African Forest.

The Colonial Office recently sent out an expert to report on the Kenya forest, in the East Africa protectorate. He finds the forest extends 187 miles long by eight miles broad, and comprises 1,000,000 acres of timber. Taking the average value of the 2½d. per cubic foot, this works out to £23 per acre, or a total value for the whole forest of £23,000,000.—London Tit-Bits.

Dead Historians.

I for my part believe in the dead historians. I glory in the possession of some hundreds of volumes by them. A great deal of cant is talked and written on this subject. There is an idea in some minds that a book on history to be good must be new. In nine cases out of ten the new book is a common-place re-statement of facts that were better presented by an older writer.—The Sphere.

A Man and a Woman.

A man's idea of being stylishly dressed is to wear something in which he looks atrociously bad; a woman's to wear something no other woman can duplicate.

STRATEGICAL USES OF TAILS.

The Clever Little Weasel and His Means of Defense.

Take another of our animals, a fierce little weasel, clad in summer in a coat of brown, in winter turning white, but always with a jet black tip to the tail. The ermine, as it is incorrectly called in its winter coat, has an easy time of it, sneaking upon the mice and birds upon which it preys, but when a hawk takes after it in an open field in the sunlight or at owl in the moonlight, it would have but short shrift with all its sinuous leaping, were it not that the black tail tip is so conspicuous that it constantly attracts the eye and allows the pure white of the body to be confused with the snow. Even when we place a dead weasel on the snow and look at it from a distance, we realize how true this is, and how valuable must be the pencil tufts of black hairs to this little vermin who spends his life in hunting or being hunted.—The Outing Magazine.

Everyone of Them a Bird.

A current newspaper item is as follows: "The wife of a Methodist minister in West Virginia, has been married three times. Her maiden name was Partridge; her first husband was named Robin; her second husband, Sparrow; and the present one's name is Quayle. There are now two young Robins, one Sparrow, and three little Quayles in the family. One grandfather was a Swan, and another was a Jay; but he's dead and now a bird of Paradise.

"They live on Hawk-ave., Eagleville, Canary Islands, and the fellow who wrote this article is a lyre bird and an interesting relative of the family."

Arctic Dog Life.

Nowhere in the world has the dog such unrestricted right of way as in our most northerly possession—Alaska. In winter, when the more than 60,000 square miles of territory are sealed up in solid ice, dogs are almost the sole means of getting from place to place—in fact, they seem necessary to life itself.

The aristocrats of Arctic dog life are the mail teams in the service of the United States Government. They are to-day a superior breed to the dogs employed some half dozen years ago before great gold discoveries demanded increased mail service.—St. Nicholas.

Names that Don't Name.

Many chemical names convey no exact idea of the things they stand for. Oil of vitriol is no oil, neither are oils of turpentine and kerosene. Copperas is an iron compound and contains no copper. Salts of lemon is the extremely poisonous oxalic acid. Carbollic acid is not an acid but an alcohol. Cobalt contains none of that metal but arsenic. Soda water has no trace of soda, and sugar of lead has no sugar; cream of tartar has nothing of cream, nor milk of lime any milk. German silver has no silver and blacklead no lead.

Dogs around Blacksmith Shops.

Two or three dogs are nearly always to be found loafing about every blacksmith shop. This fact is so well recognized that detectives when sent out after valuable dogs that have been lost invariably visit first all the blacksmith shops in the neighborhood. The reason why dogs visit the blacksmith shops is that they love inordinately the odor and the taste of burning hoofs. They sniff the odor as a woman sniffs a rose, and they eat the hoof parings as a gourmet eats truffles.—Minneapolis Journal.

Supply of Gold.

It is mainly from Africa, America and Australia that the world draws its supply of gold, some \$400,000,000 worth won regularly every year. Africa leads with about \$150,000,000; next comes the United States with about \$95,000,000; Australia ranks third with some \$85,000,000, while Russia, both in Europe and Asia, Mexico, Canada and several other countries, make up the remainder.

A Long Sleep.

An astonishing trance case has come to light in Berlin. A clerk, aged 46—a healthy normal man—suddenly fell asleep in June 1904. All efforts to awaken him were unsuccessful and the sleeper since then has never opened his eyes. He breathes regularly and swallows his food mechanically, but is insensible to the severest attempts to arouse him.

Lace Curtains.

Lace window curtains should always be soaked for an hour in cold water to which a little borax has been added, before being put into warm suns. This gets out the smoky smell that is sometimes so noticeable in curtains that have been used in a city.

Life in Germany.

Every one who has travelled in Germany is familiar with the word "verboten"—forbidden. He finds it is verboten to almost everything which he thinks he has been accustomed to do in the United States.—Chicago Standard.

A Valuable Relic.

A thirteenth century copper and gilt ciborium, supposed to have come from Malmesbury abbey, was sold by auction in London for \$30,000.

ANTIQUITY OF GLASS.

Made in Egypt Thousands of Years Before the Christian Era.

Though the art of making glass of certain kinds is very old, spectacles had to wait on the discovery or invention of some method that would produce it perfectly transparent. Specimens of glass have been found in the Egyptian tombs that are more than 4,000 years old, and glass bottles are represented on tombs at least 1,500 years earlier.

In Mesopotamia the art of making glass has been traced for at least 2,000 years B. C. But all the glass of antiquity was of inferior quality, and was almost useless for purposes where the rays of light were to be transmitted unbroken and with undiminished energy.

Mirrors were also made in Egypt thousands of years before the Christian era. The materials used were obsidian, zinc, and silver. Glass mirrors are mentioned by Pliny, but they gave back a very imperfect image and were not much esteemed.

That window glass, such as is now in current use, was slow to gain currency is shown by the little panes in many old buildings in Europe. They are usually round, or nearly so, and so small that one of them can easily be held between the tips of the fingers and the thumb.

Cards for Everything.

So thoroughly has the card index or catalogue become a part of modern business that practically no activity is without it. Brides keep the list of presents on cards. Pastors are adopting the card index to keep the name and addresses of their parishioners. Not long ago the complete list of members of the Grand Lodge of Masons of New York was transferred to cards. There are a million names. Owners of stables and kennels keep the records of their animals on cards instead of in books. Writers now keep cards on which they put down "experiences" or "episodes" to be filed away and to be used for material when they get down to writing.—Sat. Eve. Post.

Followers of Mark Twain

The latest addition to the fresh air friends seems to be included in the young ambulance surgeons. In spite of near-to-zero weather it is common to see one of these young men responding to a hurry call without a hat, and it is quite as common a sight to see them, even at night time, when it always seems colder than in the day time, seated on the rear seat of the ambulance, attired in white duck trousers. Doubtless it is only a part of the exuberance of youth, but duck trousers, on a night when the mercury is trying to push the bottom out of the thermometer do seem a trifle out of place.

Saving Paper.

The price of paper has increased so much in the last few years that we may have to do our writing on bark or celluloid. But here is a pointer: One of the big firms in New York, employing 7,000 people, has a way of assisting you to save letter paper, and at the same time serves itself in a matter of file and record. In writing to a customer, for instance, only one side of the sheet is used. Sheets are made of many sizes, to fit the length of all correspondence. At the bottom is printed in blue ink: "If necessary to reply, please do so on the back of this letter. This is a clever idea.

Good Sentries.

"Silly goose" is an expression which should be used by the extremely ignorant alone. No bird requires more patience to shoot with gun or camera, especially the latter. When feeding you will find flocks varying in size on open ground, and nearly always on such ground that a stalk is impossible. On the outskirts of these flocks you will always find sentries with heads erect, eyes and ears alert, the slightest sound or movement and you are detected—true descendants from the ancient preservers of Rome.—Country Life.

Prince Bismarck.

Bismarck himself, was a tremendous smoker, eater, and drinker, and would stride about the house followed by his dogs. The pipes and long cigars which he smoked in a day would have killed an ordinary man. He loved to pour into a huge stein a bottle of champagne and then a bottle of porter, and drink the whole mixture off at a single draft. Bismarck said of himself: "If there were many eaters like me in Prussia the state could not exist. I should have to emigrate."—P. T. O.

World's Greatest Wonder.

"What is really the greatest natural wonder on earth?" It is easy to answer now, says the Travel Magazine, since the stupendous falls of the Zambezi River have been discovered; one of the world's mightiest rivers, two miles wide, falling a sheer 420 feet. Niagara is only half a mile wide and 153 feet high, so that it figures as a mere cascade in comparison.

Another Way to Put It.

It might not be incorrect to say that the man who was smothered in a bin of oats, died from an overdose of breakfast food.

The Man With the Gun.

Trouble is always waiting round the corner for the man who has a gun in his pocket.

SOMETHING ABOUT MATCHES.

Half the Output of the World Used in America.

It is now just eighty years since the lucifer match, the first genuine friction match was invented, and the little match, which has been one of the most potent agents of modern material development, is now one of the things which is riving worry to the friends of the forests.

It is hard for the present generation to realize the inconveniences from which the friction match emancipated their ancestors. The manufacture of this product has become a great, and even a diversified industry, because every section seems to have matches peculiar to itself.

A man who has been a commercial traveler for many years declares that if he were taken up and carried to any point east of the Alleghenies he could tell within a hundred miles of where he was by the matches he should find in use. There is also a national pride in matches.

Recent mayor of Manchester, England, visiting friends in Boston, recently, spoke of our "abominable matches," and declared that he did not see how a high spirited, independent, and enterprising people like ourselves, put up with them.

The American people, however, appear to be fairly well contented with the home product, else they would not buy and consume so many with comparatively so little grumbling. They use up about 700,000,000,000 a year or about half of all that are manufactured in the world.

With Allowance.

There is an editor in a little New York town who has a well developed streak of gentle humor and a fondness for gardening. Not long ago the man of all work left him, and the editor advertised for some one to fill his place. Among the applicants for the position was a man who seemed to know his business thoroughly, but who failed to produce references as to character when requested. Moreover, his eyes were somewhat shifty.

"You say you have no references?" the editor asked.

"No, sir, I have not," the man replied in a tone of humble pride, "but I think, sir, that you will find honesty printed on my face."

The editor smiled a little. "Well—er—perhaps," he admitted; "that is, allowing for typographical errors."

The More Careful Widower.

In a village of Picardy, after a long sickness, a farmer's wife fell into a lethargy. Her husband was willing, good man, to believe her out of pain, and so according to the custom of that country, she was wrapped in a sheet and carried out to be buried. But, as luck would have it, the bearers carried her so near the hedge that the thorn pierced the sheet and awoke the woman from her trance. Some years after she died in reality, and as the funeral passed along, the husband would every now and then all out "Not too near the edge, neighbors! Not too near the hedge!"—Tit-Bits.

Way to Detect Smokeless Powder

German military authorities are experimenting with a device by which the location of tripe using smokeless powder may be easily discovered. By this device it is proposed to survive the landscape through pale red glasses. The flash of smokeless powder appears strong in red light, while ordinary objects are dimmed. By furnishing field glasses with the device in question, which is provided with screens of the proper tint, the position of concealed marksmen can be detected.

Yew Tree 3,000 Years Old.

The oldest tree not only in Scotland but in Europe, grows at Fortingall in Perthshire. According to a scientific calculation of its age by the late Sir R. Christison, it is at least well over 3,000 years. If Sir Robert's estimate is correct the Fortingall yew must have been of "goodly size" at the time when King Solomon reigned over Israel.—The Scotsman.

New York's High Birth Rate.

The birth rate in New York city during 1907 was 40 per cent higher than that of Paris. In 1907 there were 125,126 births in New York City and 79,205 deaths. There were 13,354 more births in 1907 than in 1906—the greatest increase since 1847.

Love Letter Paper.

A man has invented a writing paper that crumbles into dust within forty-eight hours after ink has touched it. This is calculated to prevent a lot of trouble in the world.—Clara City (Mo.) Herald.

The Respectable Kind.

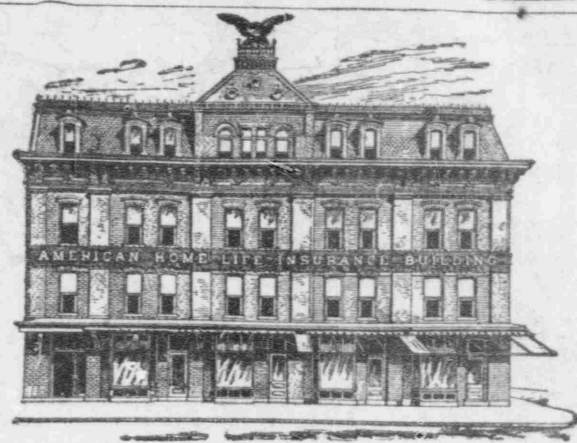
Little Willie—Say, pa, what is a "respectable fortune?" Pa—One that is large enough to make its possessor's opinion on any subject respected.

Christianity in China.

It took thirty-five years to build up a church of six members in China, but since 1900 there have been 50,000 natives converted to Christianity.

Exquisite Pleasure.

The prevalence of the blues is largely due to the exquisite pleasure most people derive in imagining themselves more miserable than anybody else can possibly be.



SICK AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE UP TO \$25.00 PER WEEK
WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE ON VERY LIBERAL TERMS
PAYABLE ONE HOUR AFTER DEATH.
AMERICAN HOME LIFE INSURANCE CO.,
FIFTH and G Streets N. W. Washington, D. C.

IT PAYS TO GO TO CHURCH.

If You Are a Young Doctor and Are On Hand When Needed.

If you are a young doctor with all the requirements of a successful career except patients, you may find it pays to go to church. This is true, especially if you have a commanding appearance and are on the job when opportunity offers. One young doctor in Brooklyn found this to be true. He attached himself to a church with a large membership, and was assiduous in attending services. As he was good looking, his presence aroused remark, especially among the women members of the congregation. At the morning services on a recent Sunday, a woman who sat in a front pew near the pulpit fainted. There was a call for a doctor. The young man rose up in his place in a side pew, stalked majestically around to and down the centre aisle, and soon was administering to the sufferer in his best professional manner. It was a big feather in the young doctor's cap.—New York Sun.

Porpoises at Play.

A remarkable photograph of half a dozen porpoises playing under water just ahead of the bow of a steamship travelling at the rate of 12 knots an hour, has been published by a correspondent of knowledge, Mr. C. H. Gale. Mr. Gale calls attention to the singular fact that the porpoises while easily maintaining their position ahead of the ship showed no apparent effort or motion of body, tail or fin. Yet he thinks that they were not carried along by movement of water in front of the vessel, because air bubbles were seen rushing from their backs, and the photograph shows the effects of these bubbles by the white streaks on the backs of the animals. Sometimes they rolled over sideways, but they always maintained their position.—Youth's Companion.

Indian Courage.

Katherine Beaulieu, a pupil of the Chilocco Indian School, Oklahoma, had her hand caught in the big steam mangle, and before the machine could be stopped the arm had been dragged in above the elbow. The physician was able to save the arm but in order to facilitate healing it was necessary to graft fifty pieces of skin over the wound. Volunteers were called for and the doctor reported several scourgings among the other pupils for the privilege of being the first to contribute part of their epidermis.—From the Indian's Friend.

European Stationery.

Hotel stationery must be cheap in Europe. The envelopes are 6½ by 5 inches, and usually of some green or bluish tint, with an inch of heavy printing across the top. Frequently no place is left for the stamp. These receptacles are so wide that they arrive folded over a couple of inches, which reduces them to the size of the ordinary American commercial envelope.

The Whole Alphabet.

In the twenty-first verse of the seventh chapter of Ezra can be found every letter of the English alphabet. It runs thus: "And I, even I, Artaxerxes the King, do make a decree to all the treasures which are beyond the river, that whatsoever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, shall require of you, it be done speedily."

More Terrible Than Cannon.

A man was blown up by an automobile the other day and killed. He had fought through 60 battles in the civil war. After all in these days of the automobile one must acknowledge that peace has its perils no less than war.—Baltimore American.

For Bait.

Take water in which walnut hulls have soaked over night and pour it on a spot of ground. In a very few hours the fishing worms will come to the surface and can easily be procured for your expedition.

Artists Models.

There are in Europe 10,000 women and girls who earn a living as artists' models. It is strange to say that there are not ten among them who possess a perfect face and figure.

Mme. Davis,



BORN CLAIRVOYANT AND CARD READER. TELLS ABOUT BUSINESS.

1228 25th St. N.W., Washington, D. C. Gives Luck to All.

N. B.—No letters answered unless accompanied by stamp.

N. B.—Mention The Bee

Electoral Votes.

The candidate who carries the State either by majority or plurality, is given the electoral vote of the State. The "electors" being elected along with the rest of the ticket are, of course, counted for the winning party. But it is possible, and sometimes happens, that the electors in a given district may be elected by the opposition, in which case the electoral vote of the State is divided.

Post Office Pens.

Mustard manufacturers grow rich, we are told, not by the quantity of mustard consumed, but by that which is wasted and left on the diners' plates. The saying is recalled by an interesting statement made by the Postmaster-General as to the number of pens supplied for use by the public in the post offices of the country. It seems that last year the total was 1,250,000.

Naturalized on the Arm.

An Italian went to the civil service commissioners' rooms to be examined for a laborer's position. He answered most of the questions correctly. Finally they asked him if he had ever been naturalized. He seemed a bit puzzled, but at last his face lighted up. "Ah, I know what you mean. Scratcha de arm. Yes, lasta week."

Nightingales Under a Ban.

It is said that no nightingales sing in Havering, England. Legend has it that the singing of the birds disturbed the devotions of Edward the Confessor when at his Havering palace, and he therefore placed them under a ban from which they have never recovered.

Cement Walks.

Why not more cement walks, porch approaches, etc., on farms? The farmer can put them down himself as cheap or cheaper than he can use lumber for the same purpose, and when once down they are there to stay.

Oh, to Be a Patch!

We would rather be only a Patch on the pants of Progress and be sat down on every hour in the day than be and old foggy and a fossil and go about disgraced at ourselves because we didn't live in the world 100 years ago.

Chance for Much Trouble.

The Sultan of Turkey recently paid \$400,000 for a diamond. If he doesn't wish to have trouble with his harem he will insist on using the stone himself.

Danger in New York Roads.

There is an average of seven car collisions a day on the steam, subway, elevated and surface railways of New York.